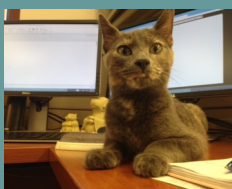
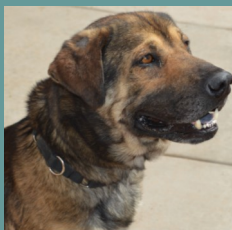




Trailin' Tails

OCTOBER — DECEMBER 2016



"Until one has loved an animal, a part of one's soul remains unawakened."

- Anatole France

A Year Full of Loving Homes!

We are thrilled to announce that in FY16 (July 1, 2015—June 30, 2016) we adopted 12,793 dogs and cats. That's a nearly 15% increase from FY15!

We extend our heartfelt thanks to each and every person who adopted from MCACC in the past year.

Haven't adopted yet? Consider visiting our shelters during the month of October. We are offering \$20 dog adoptions during National Adopt a Shelter Dog month!

Adoption fee includes spay or neuter surgery and dogs over three months of age are rabies vaccinated and go home with their County dog license.



Suzy was sent to foster care after a dental and never came back. Her foster mom fell in love!

Did you know you can see the pets available for adoption at MCACC by visiting



www.petharbor.com? Simply click on the shelter you want to visit.

All the pets featured on this page were adopted in FY16.

Enjoy!

Brought to MCACC when he was just days old, Jett quickly found a home when he was old enough for adoption.



Send Us Your Happy Tail!

Did you adopt a dog or cat from MCACC? We'd love to hear how they are doing. Send your stories and a photo to:

Public Information Office
MCACC
2500 S. 27th Avenue
Phoenix, AZ 85009

Or email: gablem@mail.maricopa.gov



Jackie Celebrating her
one-year "Gotcha Day"

Happy Tails

Dear MCACC,

I adopted Jackie from your Mesa shelter in April 2015. We've had so much fun together over the past year. She has become the most loyal companion and best friend. Jackie likes to sunbathe on the lawn even when it is 100 degrees outside!

Jackie is a great travel companion. We took a road trip to San Diego and she loved the beach. We have gone to Oklahoma to visit family four times in the past year and she was so well behaved that the people sitting next to us on the plane didn't even realize she was under the seat.

Thank you for doing all that you do to help these pets find loving homes. I have the best dog ever, my best friend forever, and I love her with all my heart.

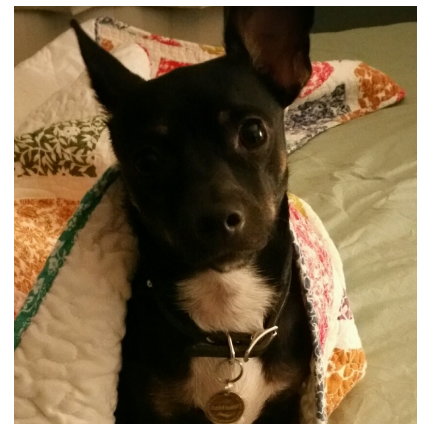
Alicia C.

I adopted Wee Man from MCACC in July 2015. His name was Spike at the time. Your volunteers had already trained him to walk on a leash and taught him to sit—which made both our lives easier! A big shout out to your volunteers.

Wee Man likes to burrow under the bed covers, even during the summer. He's very inquisitive and is crazy about the dog park. He's a total snuggler and gets jealous of my cell phone. I'm so glad to have him in my life.

Thank you!

Kelly



Wee Man

Welcome Mary Martin!

We are eagerly anticipating the arrival of our new Director, Mary Martin. Mary has been serving as the Executive Director at Santa Fe Animal Shelter & Humane Society since 2009. Mary's leadership skills and passion for animals will certainly be an asset in her new role.

Mary is no stranger to animal welfare. In fact, she has more than 30 years experience working with animals, shelters and rescue groups.

Mary started her animal welfare

career in the Valley and was the Medical Director at our Phoenix shelter from 1999—2003. Many staff remember Mary and are happy to welcome her back with open arms.

Mary also served as the Executive Director for the Spay Neuter Project of Los Angeles.

During her time in Santa Fe, Mary took the shelter from a 65% live release rate to a very successful 94%.

"I began my career in the Valley and am thrilled to return," said Mary.



"I've worked all over the country and Maricopa County has some of the most dedicated leadership, staff, advocates and volunteers who I've ever encountered. It's this type of passion and commitment that will continue to help the most vulnerable animals of Maricopa County."

Mary will take the helm of MCACC Director in the beginning of November.



Celebrate the 12K's of Christmas with Us!

We are excited to once again be part of the 12K's of Christmas! This year's event takes place on December 10th at Freestone Park in Gilbert.

The 12K's of Christmas features a 12k run, 6k run, and 1.2k run/walk. Not interested in the races? Stop by and visit Santa's Pet Village and meet adoptable pets from Valley animal shelters and rescues. We'll be out with adoptable dogs from MCACC. Still need to do some holiday shopping? The Christmas Bazaar is filled with unique handmade crafts for you or your pet!

Register today at www.12krun.com. See you there!



Supporters Color Up County!



Thanks to One Love Pit Bull Foundation and Project PAL Arizona, the walls of our shelters will soon be adorned with colorful artwork.

On September 24th the groups hosted Color Up County with DawgArt at High Street in Phoenix.

The event featured original artwork of past and present MCACC shelter dogs. Event attendees could “bid” \$25 on a painting and once



the bids topped out at \$100, the painting was sold and ready to be hung at our shelters.

All of the 35 original paintings were sold at the event and are scheduled to be hung at the shelters in October.

One Love Pit Bull Foundation and Project PAL Arizona had personal connections with each dog featured in the artwork. Both groups work with MCACC to sponsor long-time shelter residents in the hopes of finding them loving families.

Funds raised during the event will go toward MCACC dogs through One Love Pit Bull Foundation's Shelter Dog Program.

For more information visit: www.oneloveaz.org or www.projectpalaz.com.



AdoptaThon Go Success



Thanks to our friends at PetSmart Charities and the Alliance for Arizona Animal Protection for sponsoring our recent AdoptaThon Go mobile adoption event.

On September 17th, MCACC volunteers headed

out to nine Valley PetSmart stores. Each volunteer hand-picked a shelter pet to take to the event in the hopes of finding them a loving family.

More than 40 pets were selected and in just four

short hours, 26 had been adopted, including several long-time residents from our East Valley Animal Care Center!

Check out more mobile adoption events at www.maricopa.gov/pets.

Celebrate Pitties at Pittie Palooza 2016!



October is Pit Bull Awareness month and we are thrilled to be participating once again in Fix Adopt Save's Pittie Palooza. The event takes place on Saturday, October 15th from 10am to 2pm at Metrocenter Mall in Phoenix. We'll be hard to miss — just come to the Mall's west entrance.

This free event features \$20 Pit Bull adoptions, \$15 vaccinations and \$20 micro-chipping. You can also get a free spay/neuter voucher or training tips from the "Ask the Trainer" vendor booth. And while we are celebrating all things Pit Bull, you don't need to have a Pittie in order to participate at Pittie Palooza — all breeds are welcome!

Join us and our friends Arizona Animal Welfare League, Arizona Humane Society, Animal Defense League of Arizona, HALO Animal Rescue, Altered Tails Barnhart Clinic and PACC911.

Wine Events Aims to Save Lives

Join us on Thursday, November 10th as animal lovers from across the Valley gather to sip, shop, socialize and save lives at SNIFF 2016. The after-work event features a wine and spirits raffle, live and silent auction, adoptable dogs from MCACC and more!

Ticket prices start at \$50 but select the VIP level — available only through November 1 — and receive one entry in the VIP raffle, along with a premium takeaway bag that includes treats for you and your pet, plus a full bottle of wine to take home.

SNIFF 2016 benefits Friends of Animal Care and Control. SniffAZ donations are 100% dedicated to funding Maricopa County's Spay and Neuter Assistance Program (SNAP). Visit www.sniffaz.org to purchase your tickets today!

SNIFF

2016



Thursday, November 10, 2016 • 5:30 pm – 7:30 pm
Gainey Ranch Golf Club • Scottsdale, AZ 85258

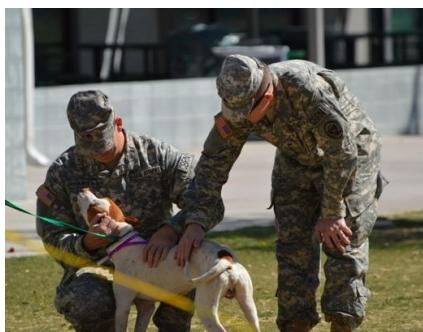
Adoptable Pets • Silent Auction • Live Auction
Wine & Spirit Raffle • 50/50 Cash Raffle



SNIFF 2016 is presented by SniffAZ, Inc., a 501(c)(3) charity. Tax ID Number 27-4467927. Donations and contributions are deductible to the full extent provided by law.

sniffaz.org

MCACC Trains Special Volunteer Response Team



Training during the 2015 Animal Decontamination exercise at Palo Verde Nuclear Generating Station

On September 24th MCACC's Lt. John Reynolds met with a group of volunteers who are interested in helping pets and pet owners during times of disaster. The volunteers will be trained as part of our new Volunteer Emergency Response Team.

The team is being assembled with the assistance of Maricopa County's Department of Emergency Management. Volunteers will be trained to assist with the rescue, transportation, sheltering, decontamination, and care of pets and service animals affected by disasters or emergencies.

Team members will be able to participate in drills, exercises and may be called to assist in responding to any declared disasters in Maricopa County.

It's Wag & Walk Season



Junior Hikers Help
Walk the Shelter
Pets

October doesn't just mean cooler weather — it's also the start of our Wag & Walk Adoption Hike season.

Wag & Walk hikes takes place on the first Saturday of each month from October thru April and feature adoptable dogs from our shelters.

The hikes give our long-

time canine residents an opportunity to get out of their kennel and enjoy some time outdoors away from the shelter.

The public is invited to bring their own well-behaved, vaccinated and leashed dogs. This provides potential adopters the chance to meet our four-legged hikers with their resident dogs in tow.

The hike itself is an easy one-mile loop on a wide, barrier free trail.

Join us at Usery Mountain Regional Park in Mesa. Hikers meet at 8:45 a.m. at the park's Merkle Trailhead for a 9:00 a.m. departure. There is a \$6 per car park entrance fee.

See you in November!

Reunited and It Feels So Good!

Our Animal Control Officers carry microchip scanners in their vehicles and are trained to scan every stray dog that they pick up.

Often times when a stray dog is scanned, there is no microchip. Occasionally there may be a chip, but when our officers call in for owner information, they are told that owner information was never recorded. What could be a possible reunion can quickly turn into a disappointment.

On September 12th when Animal Control Officer Brent Martens picked up an elderly, stray Shih Tzu from west Phoenix, he half

expected to scan the dog and not hear the "beep" which indicates a microchip has been found.

He was surprised to find the dog was chipped and even more surprised when the microchip company provided him with an owner's name and contact information.

But no one was more surprised than the dog's owner, who said "Bella" was stolen from their backyard four years ago!

Officer Martens arranged to meet the family so that they could take Bella home without even having to enter the shelter.



Bella says hello to
the family she hasn't
seen in four years



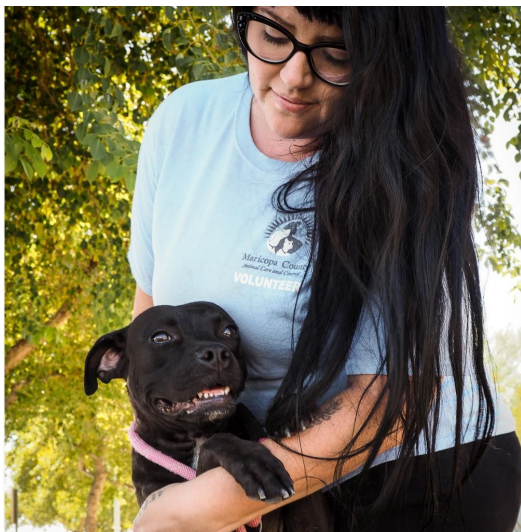
Positive Change Results in Need for Public Support

Late this summer, MCACC management made a decision to keep stray animals longer than the mandatory 72-hour stray hold period.

The decision was made to allow animals coming off of stray hold an additional 24 hours in order to improve their chances for adoption. Exceptions may include any animals that are suffering due to medical conditions in which it would be inhumane to keep them any longer.

As a result of the change, both MCACC shelters are full. For the first time in many years, the West Valley Animal Care Center opened its doors with no available kennel space.

It's not just animals being brought in from the public; there are several other



jurisdictions that provide their own animal control, but bring the pets they pick up to MCACC shelters for housing and care.

The new procedure has raised the West Valley Animal Care Center's Live Release Rate from 78% in September 2015 to 90% in September of this year.

But public support is required in order to sustain the positive movement. MCACC is asking for the public to come adopt from its shelters. For those who cannot adopt, the agency asks that Maricopa County residents ensure their dogs at home are licensed and that all pets are wearing current identification. Most of the animals that enter MCACC's doors are wearing no form of ID.

Please share!

Interested in becoming an MCACC volunteer? Attend one of our regularly scheduled volunteer orientations. Visit www.maricopa.gov/pets for information.

Volunteer Spotlight ... Marcia Hamilton



You can easily spot volunteer Marcia Hamilton when she's at our West Valley Animal Care Center in Phoenix. She's usually sporting a floppy hat and walking some of the largest dogs at the shelter. During the cooler months Marcia likes to walk the dogs on the pathway that circles several of the other County buildings in our complex.

Since she began volunteering a couple of years ago, Marcia's enthusiasm and love for the homeless pets has been contagious. She's a favorite of both MCACC staff and volunteers — and of course the shelter dogs adore her, too.

Marcia's focus is the Pet Projects; dogs who are coping with behavior issues such as fear. These dogs need to be worked with on a regular basis in order to help boost their confidence and make them more adoptable. These dogs rely heavily on our Pet Project volunteers and Marcia knows that. Most people would look forward to a vacation or some time off, but we think Marcia is truly saddened when she is unable to spend time at the shelter with her special pups. We love you Marcia and truly appreciate all that you do every single day!



Maricopa County Animal Care & Control

Come Visit Us!

West Valley Animal Care Center

(Adoptions, Lost & Found, Licensing)
2500 S. 27th Avenue
Phoenix, AZ 85009

East Valley Animal Care Center

(Adoptions, Lost & Found, Licensing)
2630 W. Rio Salado Parkway
Mesa, AZ 85201



FRIENDS of Animal Care & Control



Tim, an Army veteran who suffers from severe PTSD, was having trouble certifying his beloved dog Nala as a therapy dog because she wasn't spayed. He thought he couldn't afford the procedure, until he heard about the free spay/neuter surgeries made possible by the generous donations of Friends of Animal Care & Control (FRIENDS).

Thanks to you, thousands of Maricopa County pet parents like Tim get the help they need each year. FRIENDS is a 501(c)(3) non-

profit organization that raises money to support shelter intervention programs at MCACC. The largest of these programs is the Spay Neuter Assistance Program (SNAP). SNAP provides no-cost spay/neuter services to low-income residents of Maricopa County.

Nala is now on her way to becoming a certified therapy dog, and Tim will soon be able to live a normal life. Without your support, we wouldn't be able to make a difference in the lives of people and pets like Tim and Nala. Please visit www.azfriendsofanimals.org to make a donation.



Tim and Nala